GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2702
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
LAUNCH OF SPACE CRAFT TO MARS
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Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is capable to send Space Craft to Mars;

(b) if so, the details of the scientific objectives to be achieved by sending the space craft to Mars; and

(c) the total expenditure involved in the whole process for launching space craft to Mars?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scientific objective is to understand the evolution of the planet Mars through studies of Martian atmosphere and ionosphere, dust storms, interaction of solar radiation and particles with Mars, magnetic field and plasma environment around Mars, surface topography, composition and distribution of water-ice.

(c) The approximate cost of sending a spacecraft to Mars is about Rs.500 crores.